

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/735,622

Applicant(s)

HAMA, KENRO

Examiner

Art Unit

Douglas Q. Tran

2624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 12/14/00.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-16.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 14 December 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

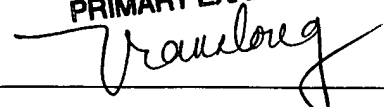
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 3/14/01
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DOUGLAS Q. TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER



EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with William Rowland on Aug. 28, 2005.

Claims 15 and 16 has been amended as follows:

15. (currently amended) A computer ~~program-product~~ readable medium storing a computer program executable by a computer for controlling print jobs, ~~the computer program-product~~ comprising:

first determining means for determining whether an interval between a transmission time of an externally transmitted first print job and a second print job transmitted after the first print job is within a predetermined time or not;

second determining means for determining whether the first print job and the second print job are the same or not; and

confirmation information transmitting means for transmitting information for confirmation as to whether to execute the second print job or not to a transmitter of the second print job when the first determining means determines that the interval between the transmission times is within the predetermined time and the second determining means determines that the first print job and the second print job are the same.

16. (currently amended) A computer ~~program-product~~ readable medium as claimed in claim 15, further comprising means for storing in a storage device

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predetermined information on the externally transmitting print job, wherein the first determining means determines whether the interval between the transmission times is within the predetermined time or not based on the predetermined information, and the second determining means determines whether the first print job and the second print job are the same or not based on the predetermined information.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-16 are allowed.

Claims 1, 10, 13, and 15 are independent claims.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As to claim 1, 10, 13, and 15, the present invention from the application discloses a printing apparatus, method and program in which “(confirmation information transmitting means for) transmitting information for confirmation as to whether to execute the second print job or not to a transmitter of the second print job when (the first determining means) determining that the interval between the transmission times is within the predetermined time and (the second determining means) determining that the first print job and the second print job are the same.”

The closest prior art such as Salgado et al. (US Patent No. 6,762,857), which is recorded on the Examiner's Remark, discloses each respective job service including means, at a desired time, for sending a signal to the JCM to carry out a sub-job of the at least one job, the signal for each of the sub-jobs including information about the

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respective sub-job and its job service and priority; Lacheze et al. (US Patent No. 5,956,698), which is recorded on the Examiner's Remark, teaches a job identifier may be unique with respect to each instance for processing of a corresponding job, e.g. a first job identifier may reflect the processing of a job during one time interval while a second job identifier may reflect the processing of the same job during another time interval; Hirata et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,665,716), which is recorded on the Examiner's Remark, teaches a cause of delay in starting the first job lies in transfer between the first job and the second job that is latest in its execution end time among the jobs executed just prior to the first job, the second job, and the corresponding computer or network is extracted.

However, either or the combination of the above prior art fails to anticipate or render the above underlined limitations obvious.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Examiner's Remark

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

Salgado et al. (US Patent No. 6,762,857) discloses each respective job service including means, at a desired time, for sending a signal to the JCM to carry out a sub-job

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of the at least one job, the signal for each of the sub-jobs including information about the respective sub-job and its job service and priority;

Lacheze et al. (US Patent No. 5,956,698) teaches a job identifier may be unique with respect to each instance for processing of a corresponding job, e.g. a first job identifier may reflect the processing of a job during one time interval while a second job identifier may reflect the processing of the same job during another time interval;

Hirata et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,665,716) teaches a cause of delay in starting the first job lies in transfer between the first job and the second job that is latest in its execution end time among the jobs executed just prior to the first job, the second job, and the corresponding computer or network is extracted.

Contact information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Douglas Q. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-7442 or E-mail address is douglas.tran@uspto.gov.

Aug. 30, 2005

DOUGLAS Q. TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER
Tranlong